# CORRESPONDENCE 6/10/2021 DOCUMENT NO. 04652-2021

# **Antonia Hover**

From: Angie Calhoun

**Sent:** Thursday, June 10, 2021 4:47 PM **To:** Consumer Correspondence

**Cc:** Diane Hood

**Subject:** FW: To CLK Docket 20210000 **Attachments:** Letter concerning Duke Energy

Consumer correspondence for docket 20210000.

### Angela Calhoun

From: Diane Hood < DHOOD@PSC.STATE.FL.US>

Sent: Thursday, June 10, 2021 4:28 PM

To: Angie Calhoun <ACalhoun@PSC.STATE.FL.US>

Subject: To CLK Docket 20210000

### **Antonia Hover**

From: Prospera Admin <admin@prosperausa.org>

**Sent:** Wednesday, June 9, 2021 11:00 AM

**To:** Consumer Contact

**Subject:** Letter concerning Duke Energy

**Attachments:** 2021 Prospera Letter to FL PSC re Duke Energy.pdf

#### Please see attached letter.

Dear Florida Public Service Commission,

Prospera is the leading Hispanic, economic development non-profit organization in Florida and North Carolina, specializing in providing bilingual assistance to Hispanic entrepreneurs who want to establish or expand their businesses. Its mission is to help start, sustain, and grow Hispanic-owned businesses to achieve community prosperity. For 30 years, Prospera has been able to serve thousands of businesses, providing individual consulting to more than 21,000 entrepreneurs, marketing over \$147 million in loans for small businesses, and helping them create or retain over 29,000 jobs.

Our mission could not be fulfilled without the financial support of community stakeholders like Duke Energy Florida. Prospera has partnered with Duke Energy Florida for the last seven years through volunteerism, education, and financial contributions that have allowed Prospera to serve more Hispanic entrepreneurs in Florida's west coast and central regions. Together, we have worked to develop curriculum and assistance for small businesses during hurricane disaster recovery to ensure they can access the tools they need to re-build and re-open their businesses, but also to be resilient and better prepared for future natural disasters.

Throughout the partnership, Prospera has been able to work with numerous Duke Energy leaders, from Duke Energy Florida President Melissa Seixas to Director of Stakeholder Engagement Amy Mangan, who serves on our governing Board of Directors. We also count on other Duke Energy employees who volunteer their time and talent serving on our boards and committees to help Prospera deliver services, raise funds, and effectively fulfill our mission.

We are concerned that Duke Energy Florida's purchase and re-organization might result in the closure of their headquarters in Pinellas County and call centers in Clearwater and Lake Mary, which would cost hundreds of Floridians their jobs and create a negative impact on local communities. As an organization, we are concerned with any decision that would put Prospera's relationship with Duke Energy Florida in jeopardy, along with the reduced ability for Duke Energy Florida to invest in the communities we serve. The missions of Prospera and many other non-profit organizations would be hindered if Duke Energy Florida were not able to play the important role of leaders in economic and community development in the state of Florida.

We hope the best interest of customers, like us, remains at the forefront of any decisions.

Sincerely,

### **Augusto Sanabria**

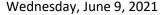
PRESIDENT / CEO 407-413-8564

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Florida Public Service Commission 2540 Shumard Oak Blvd. Tallahassee, FL 32399-0850

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Sincerely,

Augusto Sanabria President & CEO

Investors' Circle:









